Chamber President Announces Retirement

Winter Hibernation has come to an end... come out & enjoy the Spring weather at our Upcoming PM Exchanges

The Barn at Greystone: A setting for everyone

LANAP & IMPLANT CENTER all about teeth

Carpenter, Harris & Flayhart
Attorneys at Law
A collection of articles in the Sunday, April 29th edition of the Williamsport Sun-Gazette discussed the growing problem in Lycoming County communities that have public safety costs such as police (and in some fire as well). The problem is simple – they are pricing retirees and young adults out of their communities. And, as soon to be retired citizen, I have to wonder why I would stay in the city and pay the taxes. We have many wonderful communities in Lycoming County with great residential areas. I suppose the question is “What price safety?” or maybe “Is the cost worth the additional safety?” If we decide to downsize like many do, what is keeping us in the city or why move to one of the other higher tax townships and communities? Why not move to where the taxes are lower – especially since we live in a relatively safe area? I imagine we are not the only couple considering our options.

Look, I love Williamsport and I think the School District is fantastic. However, I have no children in the school district so why pay the higher taxes? I believe everyone should pay school taxes because society in general benefits from the good work of our school. But, why live in the second highest taxed school district in the county when I have no children in school and the Board just voted to raise taxes again. Now, they will say it will only cost a homeowner with a house assessed at $100,000 $40 more. Well, $40 this year and maybe more next year and then the city raises taxes and before you know it, it is real money. It starts to add up. Full disclosure, I do have two grandchildren in Williamsport schools and a third one starting next year. However, my only responsibility as far as they are concerned is to spoil them – and according to my daughter I am doing a good job of that!

Here is the problem. We live in dangerous times and people want to feel safe. But, how many police do you need to be safe and how many fire trucks do you need? What is the number of each when you have just the right mix? When do you hit the point of diminishing returns? I don’t have the answer, but we need to find it. Also, part of the equation is how much safety can people afford?

But, it is just not public safety. How much more can we afford to pay to provide our children with a quality education? How many schools do we need? How many teachers? Again, where do you reach the point of diminishing returns? How many new schools, or teachers, or how often do we need to change text books? All questions that need to be addressed.

Will a new form of government in Williamsport work for the government side of the equation? Or, as is likely the case, will whatever is done, if anything, just be more of the same? The same can be said of the school districts and the enormous costs to operate them.

Now, I think it is clear, but in case it is not, I am not blaming anyone for this mess – not School Boards, not elected city officials, not our police, fire or school teachers. No, I am blaming you (and me). John/Jane Q. Public who have some decisions to make. And we need to decide soon. Things in our communities will not get better. Very little gets less expensive. In the case of our biggest community, Williamsport, as people move out – especially higher income people, the worse it is going to get.

So, what do we do? First, we need to decide what we want as a community and how much are we willing to pay for it. The problem does not lie with any one level of government – all levels from the townships and municipalities to Washington, DC are in the same boat. But for the purposes of this column, let’s keep it about local taxes and services.

The first step towards long term reform of how we solve our funding crisis can be found in Harrisburg. I have been in this work for 38 years and for at least 35 of them I have heard legislators from both sides of the aisle and from across the state say we must reform local taxation – but it never gets done. They also say they want to do away with property taxes – well here is the secret. Few if any give you their plan as to how they will replace property taxes. There are two sides to that equation and most are giving just one side. Well, now we are on the brink of financial disaster for many communities and it is time to stop the posturing and start to actually do something. Our system in Harrisburg, like our system in Washington, needs to change. Some believe those in leadership positions have too much power over what is or is not done in Pennsylvania when it comes to legislative action – or in the case of meaningful local tax reform, good legislation. Some believe it is because of weak leaders and the breakdown of party control. You can answer that one for yourself. But, finding a tax system that is fair to the citizens – not the lobbyists, is not that difficult. For instance, what is so hard about reforming the state law and allowing communities a buffet of choices when it comes to how they will fund their own community needs. Give them the opportunity to levy a local income tax instead of a property tax or let them do a combination of both. Give them other choices as well. This is not rocket science, but you would think it was once the lobbyists get their hands on the legislation.

continued on page 3

Get Connected With Your Chamber!
www.williamsport.org
e-mail: chamber@williamsport.org
Phone: 570-326-1971

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The Chamber View

continued from page 2

There is not enough space to write all I want to write so I will continue this discussion in my next column. But, the time has come for all of us to say enough is enough. We cannot allow our communities to die but some already are and more will if we do not stop the constant tax increases and begin to lower our expenses and find alternate, fairer ways to pay for our government and our schools. It is also time to stop asking “What’s in it for me?” and start asking “What’s in it for us?” And that’s the Chamber View.

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CHAMBER,
LEADERSHIP
LYCOMING AND
LYCOMING COUNTY
VISITORS BUREAU
NEWS

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Accepting Applications for Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber President

About Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce

The Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce is a county-wide, one stop economic development company comprised of the Chamber, the Industrial Properties Corporation, the Economic and Community Growth Corporation and the Education Foundation of the Chamber. In addition, it is the designated Tourist Promotion Agency for Lycoming County and operates the Lycoming County Visitors Bureau. With over 900 members, the Chamber conducts a variety of programs and services including two Leadership Development programs, an active government affairs program and two community Chambers, the Montoursville Chamber of Commerce and the Jersey Shore Area Chamber. Headquartered in Williamsport, Lycoming County, in northcentral Pennsylvania, the Chamber was founded in 1885 and has a tradition of serving the city and county. Located in the Home of Little League Baseball and the Little League World Series, the Chamber is a recognized leader in business advocacy throughout Pennsylvania.

About the Position

The President/CEO is the chief executive and administrative officer of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce and its affiliated organizations. The President is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization and its affiliates. The President is responsible for strategic growth both programmatically and financially; represents the organization with both private and public organizations and the media. The President reports directly to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Qualifications

The qualifications for the President/CEO position include minimum of bachelor’s degree, Masters preferred, in the area of association/nonprofit management, business, or public administration from an accredited college or university or equivalent professional experience; minimum of 5 years executive leadership experience in chamber of commerce, economic and/or community development, association or business management as well as working with a Board of Directors, volunteers and/or members. Note: Competitive salary and benefits package.

How to Apply

Please send resume and cover letter to Vince Matteo at vmatteo@williamsport.org or by mail at:
Vince Matteo
President/CEO
Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce
102 West Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

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Please join us for a....
Relocation Celebration
of our Williamsport Branch

Wednesday, May 16th
11:00am - 3:00pm
1935 East 3rd St., Loyal Plaza
Williamsport, PA 17701

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Lycoming County Visitors Center
NEW HOURS

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Welcome New Chamber Members!

Allstate - Tillson Insurance and Financial Services, Inc.
Mr. Nathan Tilson
400 Market St., Suite 4
Williamsport, PA 17701
www.allstate.com/nathantilson

Callahan & Gardner Law Office
Mr. Ryan Gardner
211 West 4th St.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-323-3772
www.rcrglaw.com

Edward Jones
Mr. David Tanney
1024 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-329-3000
www.edwardjones.com

Masters Excavating LLC
Mr. Steven Masters
166 Tobacco Shed Rd.
Lock Haven, PA 17745
570-769-5027
www.mastersexcavating.com

Mileto's Sub Shop
Ms. Kristi Marshall
2127 West 4th St.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 323-0103
www.miletossubshop.com

Miller Financial Strategies - Raymond James
Mr. Ryan Miller
1012 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 505-1035
www.millerfinancialstrat.com

Northeast Knee & Joint Institute
Mr. Chris Hummer
460 River Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-560-0582
www.nkjinstitute.com

Peg & Bill's Diner II
Ms. Melaine Levine
1410 Memorial Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-322-8008
www.pegandbillsdiner.com

Rosemary's Thyme - Floral Design
Ms. Rosemary Holmes
321 Peters Ally
Montoursville, PA 17754
570-506-4618
www.roserys.com

Select Energy Services
Mr. Ross Carnevale
214 Pine Run Rd.
Linden, PA 17744
724-344-5904
http://selectenergyservices.com

Upcoming PM Exchanges...

New Trail Brewing Co.
Thursday, May 10, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm
240 Arch St, Bldg. 18, Williamsport

New Trail Brewing Company is committed to enhancing and preserving the great outdoors of Pennsylvania. We offer fresh, great-tasting, locally-made beers to people active in outdoor recreation, and we invite and inspire others to join in. We see the connection between the outdoors and great beer as refreshment, providing a reward, a sense of accomplishment, a little laughter and a smile. Come join in the experience with friends and find out what New Trail Brewing Company is all about.

Bush House Estate/Montoursville Chamber of Commerce
Thursday, May 24, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm
231 S. Lycoming Mall Road, Muncy

The Bush House Estate and the Montoursville Chamber of Commerce invite you to join them at the Bush House as they showcase the newly renovated overnight rooms and member businesses associated with the Montoursville Chamber. Get to know our Chamber members and tour the beautiful Bush House.

Chamber President Announces Retirement

Dr. Vincent J. Matteo, President/CEO of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce announced his retirement at the end of the year according to Board Chairman Mike Gaetano. Matteo made the announcement to the Board of Directors at their meeting on Wednesday morning, April 18th.

Mr. Gaetano praised Dr. Matteo for his 17 years of leadership at the Chamber and said he would have more to say in the future months.

Matteo, a 38-year veteran of Chamber and Economic Development work, took over as President of the Chamber and its affiliates on April 2, 2001. Prior to that he had worked for 7 years at the Greater Scranton Chamber and 14 years at the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber in several capacities.

Mr. Gaetano appointed a Search Committee and said they would begin a national search shortly. Any inquiries regarding the job opening should be directed to Dr. Matteo at the Chamber.

Transition Timeline
April-May: advertise for the position
June: applications received by June 15th
July: phone interviews
August-September: in-person interviews
October: 2nd round interviews and selection made by 10/20/2018
December: 12/1/2018 new President comes aboard.
Vince assists during transition period.

For a complete list of upcoming Chamber events, visit www.williamsport.org.
PM Exchanges/Ribbon Cuttings/Open Houses

Mel’s Deli & Cafe Hosts PM Exchange

Thank you to Mel’s Deli & Cafe for inviting the Chamber members to sample Mel’s delicious food at the Cafe’ on Broad Street in Montoursville. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Staff: (l-r) Sean, Aubri, and Mel Hartranft, Deb Rozyckie, Membership Development & Retention Committee.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings & Open Houses

YorkHoist
2575 Lycoming Creek Rd. Unit 1, Williamsport
Thursday, May 10th
Open House from 11:00am - 6:00pm
Learn more & RSVP at YorkHoist.com/williamsport

WAT a Division of South Jersey FCU
1935 East 3rd St., Williamsport
Wednesday, May 16th
Open House from 11:00am – 3:00pm
Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm

Chef Hosch & Ann Catering Hosts PM Exchange

Thank you to Chef Hosch & Ann Catering for inviting the Chamber members to experience their venue and enjoy their delicious food at the Carriage House on Walnut Street in Williamsport. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Staff: (l-r) Karen Metz, Membership Development & Retention Committee, Chef Danielle, Chef Hosch and Ann House.

Edward Jones
1020 Commerce Park Dr. Suite 8A, Williamsport
Thursday, May 17th
Open House from 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm

Edward Jones
1024 Washington Blvd., Williamsport
Wednesday, May 23rd
Open House from 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm

JPW Industrial Ovens & Furnaces
3607 West 4th St., Williamsport
Thursday, May 31st
Open House from 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm

Williamstown Country Club
800 Country Club Dr., Williamsport
Saturday, June 2nd
Open House from 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Registration Required: (570) 323-3709
Law firm seeks to meet every legal need

By CARA MORNINGSTAR
cmorningstar@sungazette.com

JERSEY SHORE – Carpenter, Harris and Flayhart, 128 S. Main St., offer five experienced attorneys who can help anyone in the area with nearly any legal need.

L. Craig Harris and Martin A. Flayhart took over the practice in the 1980s. Today, they are joined with attorneys Andrea P. Pulizzi, Dale A. Tice and Timothy A. B. Reitz.

Flayhart said he became an attorney to be useful. “I like being able to help people both with problems they may be having as well as transactions that may occur over the course of their life, such as buying property or real estate, that sort of thing,” he said. “Of course, we also deal with situations that people have passed away and we’re dealing with heirs and administering things.”

He said they often handle real estate transactions, administering estates and difficulties people encounter over the course of their lives. They also offer domestic relations matters, criminal law, defense, personal injury, elder law and more.

“Between the five of us, we do have the capability of addressing most concerns that people in the area would have,” Flayhart said.

Harris said he personally had a background in economics and wasn’t sure if he wanted a future in business or law, but he decided law would be what he wanted to pursue for a career.

“I went into legal business but emphasizing in businesses and real estate,” he said. “I set up a lot of LLCs for folks and help them plan.”

Harris said he fell in love with the area after attending Lock Haven University.

“I just love this neck of the woods ... I was originally born in Philadelphia and lived down there. I was more than happy to get around the mountains of Central Pennsylvania,” he said.

He enjoys going to see Penn State games. Harris was born and raised in Williamsport, so he has always been fond of Lycoming County.

“I had family in Williamsport, and originally I started in Lock Haven,” Harris said. “Craig and I got into a partnership in 1984, and we came here.”

Flayhart said the Carpenters were looking to retire, so they brought Harris and Flayhart into the business. They are still in the original building.

“The location does offer continuity as far as people knowing where we’re at as a firm,” Harris said.

“We offer our experience. Both Craig and I have been practicing law for over 40 years ... and we have new blood in the firm that is also experienced and up to date as far as any recent legal changes, just as we try to be, too.”

Flayhart said that law is ever changing, so it’s important to have experience as well as recent knowledge.

“They’re very impressive. Andrea is a hard, hard worker,” he said.

“They’re all knowledgeable, certainly. They’re hard working, and they’re personable. Clients relate well to them,” Harris said.

Both Flayhart and Harris have been mainstays in the development of the Jersey Shore area. Flayhart said it is essential to go hand in hand with being a business owner and an active community member.

“You need to be among the forefront of business leaders in the community,” he said. “You get involved with developing the economy of the area. That’s what any attorney should try to do, become a vital part of the community.”

On top of serving on councils and boards to help develop the area, Harris also enjoys playing the clarinet in the Repasz Band.

Flayhart said they are passionate about being part of the community, including being members of a number of service clubs and organizations.

“We invest a lot of ourselves over the years,” he said.
**Database Upgrade**

On Tuesday, May 1st, your Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce went live with ChamberMaster, our new Membership Database. Chamber members have the ability to access our online member directory and easily search local member businesses. ChamberMaster makes it simple to sign up for Chamber events and provides members with the ability to login to their own, secure accounts.

For questions about membership, please call our Marketing & Membership Coordinator, Taryn Mueller, at 570-320-4209 or email her at tmueller@williamsport.org.

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**Leadership Lycoming Holds Final 3**

And then there were three!

Oh what a lucky night!

The place to be for this year’s Final 3 was Farrington Place. Attendees were treated to an assortment of hors d’oeuvres and beverages. Many walked away with several prizes. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and attended the event. Congratulations to everyone who won a basket or two!

The “Best Class Ever” award was chosen again this year. Class members were invited to submit a basket to be judged by the “secret panel of judges”. Besides the bragging rights for the class, a handmade award made by Mike Drawbaugh, Class of 2011 bears the name of the winner. This award will hang in the Leadership Lycoming office until another class can be awarded at next year’s Final 3. Congratulations to the Class of 2018 for the bragging rights of “Best Class Ever”.

Leadership Lycoming would like to thank Chamber President/CEO Vince Matteo, Donna Bastian and Mike Pontious, Leadership Lycoming Chair for their tag-team duties!


Thank you to the Final 3 Committee for all their assistance; Heather Allison, Donna Bastian, Michele Boyles, Eric Gaetano, Greg Hayes, Sharon Jones, Gina Kennedy, Mary Jo Martin, Rene McKibben, Drew Mounsey, Tanya Weber and Paula Yeckley.

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**Roving Loan Fund**

To assist businesses with their financial needs for construction, renovations, equipment purchases and working capital.

For more information or application, contact Nancy Eischeid at the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce at 570-326-1971.

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Congratulations to the Class of 2018 for winning the “Best Class Ever” class basket. Representing the class is (front l to r), Katie Mackey, Stephanie Steinbacher, (back l to r), Matt Custer, Jeff McGinness, Davis Swift and Chad Larson. Their Finger Lakes Getaway included a 2-night stay at a Finger Lakes Escape Home, plenty of wine and wine and beer trail maps. Congratulations to Todd Musheno for winning that basket.

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Congratulations to the Final 3 winners, Cassie Mayo, Rep. Jeff Wheeland and Herman Logue, standing in for his son Cade Logue who was not able to attend. They collectively decided to split the $3,000 pot between them and walk away with $1,000 each.
At the Lanap & Implant Center of Pennsylvania it’s all about treating people for their special dental needs while making their visits there as comfortable as possible.

Patients can undergo tooth replacements, laser gum therapy and treatment for any of various complex dental problems.

LANAP, also known as Laser Assisted New Attachment Procedure, utilizes laser technology to remove harmful bacteria and diseased tissue from gums, allowing the body to heal naturally and the teeth to become more stable.

It’s an alternative to surgery.

Dr. David DiGiallorenzo, who heads up the practice at 2685 Euclid Ave., South Williamsport, noted that the procedure is less invasive for patients. That (See LANAP, Page 9),
Lanap, also known as Laser Assisted New Attachment Procedure, utilizes laser technology to remove harmful bacteria and diseased tissue from gums, allowing the body to heal naturally and the teeth to become more stable. It’s an alternative to surgery. Dr. David DiGiallorenzo, who heads up the practice at 2685 Euclid Ave., South Williamsport, noted that the procedure is less invasive for patients. That means less pain and bleeding, faster healing, and little to no gum recession.

“We can do your entire mouth in one visit,” he said. “We can have regeneration of bone and attachments as opposed to traditional gum surgery.”

It’s all about saving teeth, he noted.
LANAP is the only FDA-approved laser-based treatment of gum disease.

Gun disease has been linked to heart disease, stroke, diabetes, pregnancy problems, and increased risk of pancreatic cancer.

However, some teeth simply cannot be saved.
The Lanap and Implant Center also performs single and multiple tooth replacements in a single visit.

State-of-the-art 3D imaging provides precise detection, resulting in the best overall treatment outcomes. Painless and brief scanning allows joints and adjacent structures to be seen from every angle.

Dr. Henry Hsu noted that patients can undergo procedures in a comfortable setting.
Licensed massage therapists will perform foot rubs.
But that’s not all.
“We offer oral sedation aromatherapy,” he said.
“We strive to keep the patient as relaxed and comfortable as possible.”

Karen Lundy, director of patient relations, noted the experienced staff of the practice.
“We have a really good team here. We all know what we have to do,” she said.

DeGiallorenzo has been practicing in the Williamsport area for more than 20 years.
In November, he moved the practice to its present location at 2685 Euclid Ave., DuBoistown.
“We have patients from all over,” Lundy said.
The practice includes five operating rooms.
“We spend a lot of time with our patients,” Lundy said. “They are not just a number here. We pride ourselves in taking good care of our patients and truly getting to know them.”
The Leadership Lycoming Class of 2018 had a lot to do and see this day. The class met Jessica Williamson at the Community Theatre League. Jessica showed them the CAST area, the sound booth, the stage area, the green room and all the behind the scenes. Next, the class learned about Millionaires’ Row with tour guide Susan Kelly and stopped at the Rowley House where Bill Hoffmann showed a short film and talked about the history as he led the class through the house. Then on to the World of Little League where the class toured the museum and were treated to lunch in their cafeteria. After lunch, the class traveled to Jersey Shore to meet Tina Cooley at the Historical Society at the Samuel Moss House. Tina gave the class a short walking tour of Jersey Shore and pointed out some rather interesting facts. After a brief stop at Dunkin Donuts for a pick-me-up, the class headed to the BB&T Ballpark at Historic Bowman Field where Gabe Sinicropi gave the class a short history lesson and a tour of the stadium. Last stop was the Community Arts Center for a tour and a behind the scenes tour.

Thank you to our sponsor TownePlace Suites, and special thanks to River Valley Transit for the trolley.

Thank you Phil Cyrus, Danielle Mattison, Wilkinson Dunn Company and Rob Dunkleberger, Lycoming College as class reporters.

Thank you to our program day sponsor:

TOWNEPLACE SUITES MARRIOTT

The class learns a few history lessons before Museum Director Gary Parks sets them free to roam the museum on their own.

Let’s play ball! A tour of the recently remodeled BB&T Ballpark with Gabe Sinicropi, puts everyone in the baseball spirit.

A tour of the Little League Museum brings the class to pose for a photo after leaving their message of Greatest Class Ever on the baseball wall.

(left:)Bill Hoffmann leads the class through the historic Rowley House.

During the tour of Jersey Shore, Tina Cooley brings them to one of the oldest churches in Jersey Shore.
Thank you to our renewing members. We do appreciate your membership and involvement in the Chamber!

**Members 25 Years and Over**
- Holiday Inn Downtown/James Restaurant
- Roan Inc.
- Clyde Peeling’s Reptiland
- Kellogg Company
- Williamsport Automotive, Inc.
- Timeless Interiors, Inc.

**Members 10 - 19 Years**
- DATMAN Productions, Inc.
- Better Business Bureau
- Mel’s Deli & Cafe
- Clinton Country Club

**Members under 10 Years**
- Snyder’s Nursery at the Feed Mill
- Central Contracting

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**Hampton by Hilton Brand Recognizes Local Property as Top Performing**

WILLIAMSPORT, Penn. – March 28, 2018 – Hampton by Hilton, Hilton’s global mid-price brand of more than 2,300 hotels, has recognized Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Williamsport-Faxon Exit with a Lighthouse Award. The award signifies the hotel as one of the top performing properties within the brand during the 2017 calendar year. It is presented to hotels that have excelled in service and growing customer loyalty.

This award is given to the top five percent of Hampton Inn & Suites in the Americas. The property will also receive a brand trophy to display in their lobby.

“The staff and I are extremely honored to receive this special recognition from the Hampton by Hilton brand,” said Madge Guiser, General Manager. “Each day, we look forward to providing exceptional customer service ensuring our guests are happy during their stay with us. I’m extremely proud of my team and their efforts.”

Hampton by Hilton offers warm surroundings, a friendly service culture and a staff that makes sure guests are 100 percent happy. Guaranteed™. Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Williamsport-Faxon Exit offers guests brand amenities including free hot breakfast, complimentary Wi-Fi, a 24-hour business center and fitness center. Each guestroom includes a refrigerator, microwave, and coffeemaker.

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Williamsport-Faxon Exit is part of Hilton Honors, the award-winning guest-loyalty program for Hilton’s 14 distinct hotel brands. Hilton Honors members who book directly through preferred Hilton channels save time and money and gain instant access to the benefits they care about most, such as an exclusive member discount, free Wi-Fi and a flexible payment slider that allows members to choose nearly any combination of Points and money to book a stay. Members can also redeem their Points for free nights, to gain access to unique events through the Hilton Honors auction platform or to make purchases with at Amazon.com with Amazon Shop with Points.

To make a reservation, visit Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Williamsport-Faxon Exit or call (570) 601-5800.

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**Mark Your Calendar!**

The Leadership Lycoming Operating Committee invites you to attend a graduation breakfast honoring the Leadership Lycoming Class of 2018 Thursday, June 14, 2017 Williamsport Country Club 800 Country Club Drive, Williamsport Registration -7:30 am Program begins at 8:00 am Reservations are required by June 11, 2018 570-326-1971 or www.williamsport.org $20 per person
Sweet Frog, 1930 Lycoming Creek Road, has been offering the community self-serve frozen yogurt for over five years.

The business is owned by two brothers, Rob Saar and Rick Saar.

“We got into the business five years ago. It was actually an idea that Rick came up with, and we started researching it for about a year,” Rob Saar said. “We visited other locations, and we decided it would be a good fit for Williamsport.”

He said he likes raising his family in the Williamsport area.

“I’ve bought a house and we’ve been there ever since,” he said. “We just love the area.”

The brothers grew up in the area and wanted to make it happen locally.

“Customers basically come in. They have options of different sizes of cups, and they have choices (for yogurt flavor),” he said. “Then they move over to the toppings bar.”

Rob Saar said that customers can serve themselves yogurt in their cups, choose their toppings or sauces and then pay by weight at the end.

“Other than premium frozen yogurt, we also have soft serve ice cream and sorbets,” Rick Saar said. “We have nondairy and items that are nonallergenic. So, anyone who has food allergies, we have options for them as well. We also have healthier choices and more indulgent choices.”

He said there’s also fresh fruit available for toppings.

“It’s not just nonhealthy ice cream, there’s a whole spectrum of products we can serve,” he said. “Frozen yogurt itself is much healthier for you, and we have the dairy free and nonfat, lowfat options,” he said. “We cover a broad base ... We can accommodate just about anybody.”

Rick Saar said the brothers were looking into what they could do to help support their families when they decided to go into business together.

“We invest in real estate, and one of the things we considered was a franchise. We spent a few years searching types of franchises, and then we narrowed it down to food,” he said.

Then they decided they wanted to go into frozen desert which eventually lead them to Sweet Frog.

“We looked at several frozen yogurt places, and there were several models out there. One of the things that drew us to Sweet Frog is that Frog stands for Fully Relying On God,” he said. “Given our upbringings, our values and what we try to instill in our families, that was just a good fit for us.”

Rob Saar said he finds customers appreciate having the faith based foundation.

“This is our neighborhood that we grew up in, and we thought it’d be nice to have a family-friendly business here,” Rick Saar said. “Prior it was a cigarette check cashing, and it was run down. There were several robberies here ... and it was an eyesore.”

He said they received many comments about how much better the property looks now that Sweet Frog moved in.

“It’s a beautiful property with real bright colors, and it’s a nice addition to the neighborhood. That’s what we were looking for,” he said. “We wanted some place where families could come.”

In the summer, customers can sit outside at the nice patio area with their families.

“You’d rather see that than a vacant property where it’s being vandalized,” he said.

Rick Saar said the experience is something children especially enjoy because they can pull the levers and serve the frozen yogurt themselves.

“They can go nuts, and it’s fun for kids to pick out the toppings themselves too,” he said. “But we recommend that families limit the younger kids to one to two toppings ... But kids have a lot of fun coming in and doing it themselves.”
The Barn at Greystone sits among rich farmland of Northumberland County, a picturesque setting that beckons motorists and others passerby to want to stop and have a look around.

Not surprisingly, what remains a working horse farm has become a venue for weddings and other special events.

“It is shaping up the way I dreamed it would be,” Daphne Bowers, owner of the business at 106 Welliver Road, Watsontown, said.

Sharing the farm with others is what she had long hoped to do.

The 93-acre site, featuring a large renovated barn, provides a setting for both indoor and outside activities.

“It’s been a couple of years in the making,” Bowers said.

People can book the farm for weddings, birthday parties, reunions, rehearsal dinners, baby showers, or worship groups.

Since opening in 2017, it’s become a popular venue.

Right now, the farm is just entering its busiest months of the year.

“Everyone seems to want an event in the fall,” Bowers said.

“We are booked solid from August to October.”

The restored barn features a spacious first floor — perfect for indoor activities — with a staircase winding up to a loft area.

Other rooms on the first floor include an area used for a bridal lounge or other purposes.

First-time visitors, Bowers noted, often marvel at the size of the barn’s interior.

The farm, with its eye-catching rural scenery including a pond and apple orchard, offers many areas for photography.

“We are equipped to do parties,” Bowers said. “We can do corporate events. We are completely wired. We have all the technology that anyone needs.”

She said the farm has always been special to her, but now others get to see it and enjoy its beauty.

The aim of the business, she said, is to ensure that each event is memorable for each couple or group that uses it.

“Planning an event is a big part of the process,” she said.

The historic nature of the farm is also important to her.

Originally owned by the Moser family, the limestone foundation of the barn dates to 1818.

“My excitement about it is everyone makes it their own,” she said.

The website is www.thebarnatgreystonefarm.com.
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Come to Our Grand Opening Celebration

You’re invited to celebrate the grand opening of our new Edward Jones office. While our location has changed, our commitment to providing face-to-face, personalized service is still the same. We invite you to bring your family and friends and help us celebrate our new location.

Your family and friends are welcome to join us. Please call Wendy or Pat at 570.329.3000 by May 16, 2018.

David Tanney
Financial Advisor
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May 23, 2018
from 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Ribbon Cutting 4:00 pm
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Williamsport Sun-Gazette, May 2018

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Contact: Taryn Mueller for more information at 570-320-4209.

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Thursday, May 31st
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 4:00pm
Open House from 3:00pm-5:00pm

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Planning to be in this year’s Grand Slam Parade? If so, the parade application deadline of June 1 is rapidly approaching. Download the application at www.grandslamparade.com

Businesses looking to be affiliated with the parade can download sponsorship and advertising information at the website. This year’s parade will be broadcast live on WBRE TV-28. Get your name out to the local and regional community across the television airwaves.

Thank you to the below that have already committed to the 2018 parade.

The Grand Slam Parade is produced by the Lycoming County Visitors Bureau, a program of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.